

Application No. 10/824,191  
Filed: April 14, 2004  
TC Art Unit: 3612  
Confirmation No.: 5889

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

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15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (New) A system for covering a transport container on a truck, comprising:

a cover assembly comprising a flexible cover deployable to cover the transport container; and

a gantry assembly comprising:

a base section fixed with respect to the truck;

a movable section liftably disposed with respect to the base section and having an upper end fixed to the cover assembly, wherein the movable section comprises an upper movable section, and further comprising a middle movable section liftably disposed on the base section, the upper movable section liftably disposed on the middle movable section; and

a lift mechanism fixed with respect to the base section and operative to lift the movable section and the cover assembly above the transport container on the truck.

21. (New) A system for covering a transport container on a truck, comprising:

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a cover assembly comprising a flexible cover deployable to cover the transport container;

a gantry assembly comprising:

    a base section fixed with respect to the truck;

    a movable section liftably disposed with respect to the base section and having an upper end fixed to the cover assembly;

    a lift mechanism fixed with respect to the base section and operative to lift the movable section and the cover assembly above the transport container on the truck; and

    a stop mechanism disposed between the base section and the movable section configured to prevent the movable section from removing completely from the base section.

22. (New) The covering system of claim 21, wherein:

    the base section comprises a pair of legs, and the movable section comprises a pair of legs telescopically disposed within the pair of legs of the base section; and

    the stop mechanism comprises a stop member disposed at an upper end of the legs of the base section and a contact member disposed near and protruding radially from a lower end of the pair of legs of the movable section for abutting contact with the contact member when the movable section extends from the base section.

23. (New) The covering system of claim 22, wherein the contact member comprises a pin extending diametrically across each of the legs of the movable member.

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24. (New) The covering system of claim 22, wherein the stop member comprises a depending annular ring disposed circumferentially within an inner diameter of the legs of the base member.

25. (New) A system for covering a transport container on a truck, comprising:

a cover assembly comprising a flexible cover deployable to cover the transport container;

a gantry assembly comprising:

a base section fixed with respect to the truck;

a movable section liftably disposed with respect to the base section and having an upper end fixed to the cover assembly;

a lift mechanism fixed with respect to the base section and operative to lift the movable section and the cover assembly above the transport container on the truck, wherein the lift mechanism comprises a cylinder member fixed with respect to the base section and a piston member fixed with respect to the movable section and extension of the piston member from the cylinder member is operative to extend the movable section from the base section; and further comprising a middle movable section liftably disposed on the base section, the movable section comprising an upper movable section liftably disposed on the middle movable section; and wherein:

the lift mechanism comprises a cylinder member fixed with respect to the base section, an upper piston member fixed with respect to the upper movable section, and a mid member between the upper piston member and the cylinder member; and

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extension of the upper piston member is operative to extend the upper movable section from the middle movable section, and extension of the mid member is operative to extend the middle movable section from the base section and to continue lifting of the upper movable section.

26. (New) A system for covering a transport container on a truck, comprising:

a cover assembly comprising a flexible cover deployable to cover the transport container; and

a gantry assembly comprising:

a base section fixed with respect to the truck;

a movable section liftably disposed with respect to the base section and having an upper end fixed to the cover assembly; and

a lift mechanism fixed with respect to the base section and operative to lift the movable section and the cover assembly above the transport container on the truck, and wherein the gantry assembly is configured to raise the cover assembly twelve feet above a bed of the truck.